

SECURITIES



FORM X-17A-5 MAR

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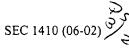
PART III

FACING PAGE

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING	9/30/2003 MM/DD/YY	AND ENDING_	12/31/2003 MM/DD/YY
	WIW/ DD/ 1 1		WHALLOON 1 1
	A. REGISTRANT ID	ENTIFICATION	
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:			OFFICIAL USE ONLY
_AQUARIUS FUND DISTRIBUTO	ORS, INC	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	FIRM I.D. NO.
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BU	SINESS: (Do not use P.C	O. Box No.)	
4020 S. 147 TH STREET			
	(No. and St	reet)	
ОМАНА	NE	6813	7
(City)	(State)	(Zip Cod	е)
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF P	ERSON TO CONTACT	`IN REGARD TO THIS R	REPORT
ANN ZEMANN			93-1731
		(Area C	Code - Telephone Number)
В	. ACCOUNTANT ID	ENTIFICATION	
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT	whose opinion is contain	ed in this Report*	
SEIM, JOHNSON, SESTAK & Q			
	(Name - if individual, state la	st, first, middle name)	
8807 INDIAN HILLS DRIVE	OMAHA	NE 68114	4
(Address) (City)	(State)		(Zip Code)
CHECK ONE: Certified Public Accountant Public Accountant Accountant not resident in Unit	ed States or any of its po	ssessions.	PROCESSED Mar 24 2004
	FOR OFFICIAL USE	ONLY	THOMSON FINANCIAL

^{*} Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See Section 240.17a-5(e)(2)



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OATH OR AFFIRMATION

knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supp _AQUARIUS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC	, as of
DECEMBER 31, 2003 , are true and correct. I further swear (or a partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary in that of a customer, except as follows: NONE .	,
	Signature Signature Title
Notary Public GENERAL NOTARY - State of Nebraska PATRICIA J. HUBER My Comm. Exp. Dec. 18, 2008	
This report ** contains (check all applicable boxes): (a) Facing page. (b) Statement of Financial Condition. (c) Statement of Income (Loss). (d) Statement of Cash Flows. (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor (f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors. (g) Computation of Net Capital (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule I (i) Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule (j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation of the Computation of N Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit (k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial solidation. (l) An Oath or Affirmation. (m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report. (n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to hav (o) Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control	15c3-3. 15c3-3. Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the A of Rule 15c3-3. 1 Condition with respect to methods of con-

^{**}For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

AQUARIUS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC. (A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF NORTHSTAR FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP, LLC)

Financial Statements December 31, 2003

Together with Independent Auditor's Report

AQUARIUS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC. (A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF NORTHSTAR FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP, LLC)

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Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors and Stockholder Aquarius Fund Distributors, Inc. Omaha, Nebraska:

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Aquarius Fund Distributors, Inc. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC) as of December 31, 2003, and the related statements of operations, changes in stockholder's equity and changes in financial condition for the period since inception (February 19, 2003) through December 31, 2003 that you are filing pursuant to rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Aquarius Fund Distributors, Inc. as of December 31, 2003, and the results of its operations and changes in financial condition for the period then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The information contained in Schedule I and II is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Dein, Johnson, Destals & Quint, LLP

Omaha, Nebraska, January 30, 2004.

AQUARIUS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC. (A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC)

Statement of Financial Condition December 31, 2003

ASSETS Cash Receivable from non-customer Investment in and receivable from affiliates, subsidiaries and associated partnerships Other assets	\$	2003 141,149 194,849 204,860 27,800
	\$	568,658
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY Liabilities: Accounts payable, accrued liabilities, expenses and other Contingent liabilities	\$.	<u>242,246</u>
Stockholder's equity Common stock; \$.01 par value; authorized 100,000 shares; Issued and outstanding, 1,000 shares Additional paid-in capital Retained earnings		10 49,990 276,412
Total stockholder's equity		326,412
	\$	568,658

AQUARIUS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC. (A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC)

Statement of Operations For the Period Since Inception (February 19, 2003) to December 31, 2003

REVENUE: Commissions on all other securities	2003 \$ 683,931
EXPENSES: Commissions Employee compensation and benefits General and administrative expenses Management fees	181,693 24,127 6,593 28,176
Total expenses	240,589
Net income before income taxes	443,342
Provision for income taxes	166,930
Net income after income taxes	\$276,412

(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC)

Statement of Changes in Stockholder's Equity For the Period Since Inception (February 19, 2003) to December 31, 2003

	Common Stock	Paid-In Capital	Retained <u>Earnings</u>	Total
Issuance of stock at inception	10	49,990		50,000
Net income after income taxes			276,412	276,412
Balances, end of period	\$ <u>10</u>	49,990	276,412	326,412

AQUARIUS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC. (A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC)

Statement of Changes in Financial Condition For the Period Since Inception (February 19, 2003) to December 31, 2003

		2003
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: Net income Adjustment to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:	\$	276,412
Increase in operating assets: Receivable from non-customer Other assets Investment in and receivable from affiliates, subsidiaries		(194,849) (27,800)
and associated partnerships		(204,860)
Increase in operating liabilities: Accounts payable, accrued liabilities, expenses and other	-	242,246
Net cash provided by operating activities	-	91,149
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: Capital contribution		50,000
Net increase in cash		141,149
Cash, beginning of period		
Cash, end of period	\$.	141,149

(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC)

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2003

(1) Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Aquarius Fund Distributors, Inc. ("Aquarius" or the "Company") is a Nebraska corporation providing mutual fund distribution services to investment companies and mutual funds and annuity products to the general public. On December 31, 2003, Aquarius changed its form of organization from a Nebraska corporation to a Nebraska limited liability company. Aquarius is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and is a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD). This summary of significant accounting policies of Aquarius is presented to assist in understanding Aquarius' financial statements. The financial statements and notes are representations of Aquarius' management, who are responsible for their integrity and objectivity. The Company derives all of its income from one source.

The inception date of the Company was February 19, 2003. However, operations commenced on September 30, 2003.

A. Basis of Accounting

Aquarius prepares its financial statements on the accrual basis using accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

B. Estimates

The presentation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

C. Cash

Cash is defined as all highly liquid debt instruments with an original maturity of three months or less.

D. Receivable from Non-Customer

The Company considers the receivable from non-customer to be fully collectible and, accordingly, no allowance for doubtful accounts is required. If amounts become uncollectible, they will be charged to operations when that determination is made.

E. Commissions

Commissions and related clearing expenses are recorded on a trade-date basis as securities transactions occur.

F. Income Taxes

Deferred taxes and liabilities are determined based on the differences between financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates and law applicable to the years in which the differences are expected to reverse. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are adjusted for the effects of changes in tax laws and rates on the date of enactment.

(2) Net Capital Requirements

Aquarius is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission Uniform Net Capital Rule (SEC rule 15c3-1), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 8 to 1 in the first year and 15 to 1 in subsequent years. At December 31, 2003, the Company had net capital of \$47,089, which was \$20,999 in excess of its required net capital of \$26,090. The Company's net capital to required net capital ratio was 1.80 to 1.

(3) Related Parties

Aquarius' parent company, NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC (NorthStar), provides management services for a number of subsidiaries. NorthStar allocates direct expenses to the subsidiaries, and then allocates any remaining expenses to each subsidiary based on the number of employees of each subsidiary. The amount of expenses allocated to Aquarius in 2003 was \$28,176. This entire amount was outstanding as a payable to NorthStar at December 31, 2003 and included in accounts payable, accrued liabilities, expenses and other on the statement of financial condition.

Aquarius receives marketing and shareholder servicing fees for certain accounts for which an affiliate, Clarke Lanzen Skalla Investment Firm, LLC (also a wholly-owned subsidiary of NorthStar) acts as investment advisor.

In the ordinary course of business, Aquarius may advance funds to affiliated NorthStar companies. At December 31, 2003, the amount receivable from affiliates was \$204,860.

During 2003, Aquarius paid commissions to a shareholder of NorthStar. The total amount of commissions earned by this shareholder during 2003 was \$175,958, of which \$47,140 was still owed to him at December 31, 2003.

(4) Income Taxes

The components of income tax expense are

	_	2003
Current portion: Federal State	\$	136,561 30,369
	\$_	166,930

The provision for income tax differs from the "expected" tax expense (computed by applying Federal and State statutory rates to income before income taxes) due to certain expenses not being deductible for income tax purposes.

The Company is a member of a controlled group of corporations and limited liability companies which file separate tax returns. The provision for income taxes is computed primarily on a separate company basis and the members of the controlled group file an annual election to allocate the corporate surtax exemption amount and other income tax attributes between each member.

(A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF NORTHSTAR FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP, LLC)

Computation of Aggregate Indebtedness and Net Capital in Accordance with Rule 15c3-1 Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 December 31, 2003

Aggregate Indebtedness: Commissions payable Due to affiliate Income taxes payable (excluding those related			\$	47,140 28,176
to disallowed receivables)				133,401
Total Aggregate Indebtedness			\$	208,717
Net Capital: Credit items:	· .	22.520		
Income taxes payable related to disallowed receivables Common stock	\$	33,529 10		•
Additional paid-in capital		49,990		
Retained earnings		276,412	. \$	359,941
Deduct Non-Allowable Assets:				
Disallowed receivables Prepaid expenses		80,192 27,800		
Receivable from affiliate		204,860		312,852
Net Capital			\$	47,089
Capital Requirements:				
Minimum dollar requirement*			\$	26,090
Net capital exceeding requirement				20,999
Net Capital			\$	47,089
Percentage of Net Capital to Required Capital				1.80 to 1
Percentage of Aggregate Indebtedness to Net Capital				4.43 to 1

^{*} As this is the first year of operations for Aquarius, the minimum dollar requirement is the greater of \$25,000 or 12.5% of aggregate indebtedness (\$208,717 x 12.5% = \$26,090). In future years, the minimum dollar requirement will be the greater of \$25,000 or 63% of aggregate indebtedness.

(A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF NORTHSTAR FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP, LLC)

Reconciliation of Net Capital and Aggregate Indebtedness Per Audit Report to Client's FOCUS Report December 31, 2003

Net capital, as reported in Company's Part II (unaudited) FOCUS report, as originally filed	\$	55,152
Audit adjustment to record additional commission revenue		28,568
Audit adjustment to record additional commissions payable		(27,140)
Audit adjustment to reduce management fees		57,102
Audit adjustment to record additional provision for income tax expense		(19,930)
NASD adjustment to classify receivables as non-allowable	•	(80,192)
NASD adjustment to classify income tax payable related to non-allowable receivables as capital		33,529
Net capital per audit report	\$	47,089
Aggregate indebtedness as reported in Company's Part II (unaudited) FOCUS report,	\$	252,278
as originally filed Audit adjustment to record additional commissions payable	Φ	252,276
Addit adjustment to reduce management fees		(57,102)
Audit adjustment to record additional provision for income tax expense		19,930
NASD adjustment to classify income tax payable related to non-allowable		10,000
receivables as capital		(33,529)
Aggregate indebtedness per audit report	\$	208,717

(A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF NORTHSTAR FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP, LLC)

Information Relating to Possession or Control Requirements December 31, 2003

This firm claims exemption to SEC Rule 15c3-3 pursuant to Paragraph (k) (2)(ii).

AQUARIUS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC. (A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF NORTHSTAR FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP, LLC)

Computation of Reserve Requirement **December 31, 2003**

This firm claims exemption to SEC Rule 15c3-3 pursuant to Paragraph (k)(2)(i).



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

Board of Directors and Stockholder Aquarius Fund Distributors, Inc. Omaha, Nebraska:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements and additional information of Aquarius Fund Distributors, Inc. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC) for the period ended December 31, 2003, we considered its internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company, including tests of such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objective stated in Rule 17a-5(g) in making periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness and net capital under Rule 17a-3(a)(11) and for determining the compliance with the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3. Because the Company does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in any of the following:

- 1. Making quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications and comparisons.
- 2. Recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13.
- 3. Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of controls and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's abovementioned objectives. Two of the objectives of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against losses from unauthorized use or disposition and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.

Our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in internal control that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of the specific internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Due to the limited size of the Company and number of personnel involved in the accounting function, conditions exist that do not permit the proper segregation of duties or certain other controls and procedures for reliance or implementation of a detailed system of internal controls. However, we noted no matters involving internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures were adequate at December 31, 2003 to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors, management, the SEC and other regulatory agencies that rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Dein, Johnson, Sestale & Dint, LLP

Omaha, Nebraska, January 30, 2004.